

THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

S.R. 2021/2022 – 07

A Resolution Formally Recommending Continued Virtual Learning Academic Support

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

Date

11/29/21

Authored by:

Zachary Noesen - Academic Affairs Chair, Claire Wint - Off Campus Senator, Damon Sherry -
Senator at Large, Hani Baltagi - Diversity Affairs Senator

Sponsored by:

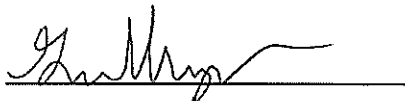
Rose Brookhart - College of Arts and Sciences Senator, Olivia Parcher - College of Health and
Human Services Senator, Nolan McHugh - Internal Affairs Chair, Ana Vorbeva - Student Affairs
Chair

11/29/21

Approved by the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Body, and prepared for the presentation to
the president of the Undergraduate Student Government

11/29/21

Approved by the president of the Undergraduate Student Government, and so order into effect.



Gabriel Wagner
Speaker of the Senate



Alexander Chiarelott
President of the Undergraduate Student Government

S.R. 2021/2022 – 07

A Resolution Formally Recommending Continued Virtual Learning Academic Support

In the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Body here assembled,

1. **Whereas**, the Undergraduate Student Government represents the undergraduate student voice
2. at Bowling Green State University; and

3. **Whereas**, Bowling Green State University and the Undergraduate Student Government
4. aim to ensure all student voices are represented within the Senate; and

5. **Whereas**, the Undergraduate Student Government’s mission statement states that “we support
6. our fellow falcons in the areas of academic success, wellness, safety, and engagement as we
7. strive to build a welcoming community for students of all identities;”¹ and

8. **Whereas**, The Undergraduate Student Government recognizes the negative effects that
9. Covid-19 has on physical and mental health as well as the pandemics’ repercussions on
10. delaying both student learning and educational success; and

11. **Whereas**, the BGSU Counseling Center has reported an overwhelming influx of students
12. seeking mental health support in light of the Covid-19 pandemic; and

13. **Whereas**, the United States Department of Education notes that there were approximately
14. 560,000 fewer students across the country enrolled in an undergraduate program in between
15. 2019 - 2020;² and

16. **Whereas**, the same study indicates that many additional students dropped out of
17. undergraduate programs on account of financial, mental, and physical health reasons; and

18. **Whereas**, Bowling Green State University was an exception to that rule, noting on their
19. website that the enrollment trends defy “the national trend of declining enrollment, BGSU is
20. up. 1.6% in headcount from fall 2019, with 20,232 students enrolled for the Fall 2020
21. academic term. The University’s retention rate saw an even larger increase, up 2.3% from
22. 2019, with a 79.4% overall retention rate, the highest in a century;”³ and

¹ [Undergraduate Student Government \(USG\)](#)

² [Education in a Pandemic: The Disparate Impacts of COVID-19 on America's Students \(PDF\)](#)

³ [BGSU announces record retention, highest enrollment in more than a decade](#)

23. **Whereas**, USG recognizes the successes of past accommodations implemented for the
24. student body beginning during the 2020-2021 academic year; and

25. **Whereas**, the Covid-19 pandemic has allowed us to look critically at certain unquestioned
26. traditions and beliefs in an effort to resume in-person activities in a way that maintains the
27. goals of safeguarding mental and physical health that were highlighted over the course of
28. remote learning; and

29. **Whereas**, The Academic Affairs Committee has reached out to the student body through
30. survey and conversation; and

31. **Whereas**, the undergraduate student body of Bowling Green State University has used their
32. voice to express which policies have helped them throughout the pandemic and which
33. policies they would like to see continue through and beyond the return to in-person learning;

34. **Therefore, let it be resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government recommends the
35. creation of an adjunct committee with representation from Undergraduate Student
36. Government, Graduate Student Senate, Faculty Senate, and other relevant offices or
37. organizations to examine and review the Covid-19 policies and procedures as well as the
38. potential long-term effects of the pandemic on students, faculty, staff, and future policies; and

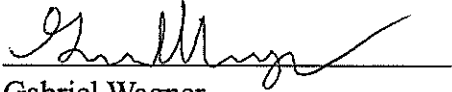
39. **Let it be Further Resolved** that it is the recommendation of the undergraduate students that
40. instructors utilize Canvas to provide lecture notes and relevant resources to students with
41. hopes of aiding students who need to miss class; and

42. **Let it be Further Resolved** that it is the recommendation of the undergraduate students that
43. instructors implement a minimum excused absence policy to allow for physical illness and
44. mental health days; and

45. **Let it be Further Resolved** that it is the recommendation of the undergraduate students that
46. instructors judge deadlines with leniency when it comes specifically to reasons of physical
47. and mental health.

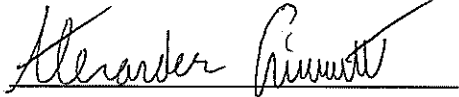
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Passed by the Senate and ordered presented to the president of the Undergraduate Student Body for Approval or Veto.



Gabriel Wagner
Speaker of the Senate

I do hereby approve and order this legislation into effect.



Alexander Chiarelott
President of the Undergraduate Student Government

I do hereby disapprove and order this legislation to be returned to the Senate.

Alexander Chiarelott
President of the Undergraduate Student Government